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REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1-8 and 17, and add new claims 18-19. Claim 9 has previously been canceled. Claims 10-16 and 18-19 are now pending in the application. Claims 10-14 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants add dependent claims 18-19—dependent from claims 15 and 16, respectively—to recite features corresponding to those of canceled claim 2. No new matter has been added.

Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Dexter Chang (Reg. No. 44,071), has confirmed that all of the references that were listed in the Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") filed on May 15, 2006 for this application have been received and scanned into the PAIR system at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the IDS and these references, and return a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form attached to the IDS.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 15-16. Claims 18-19 depend from claims 15 and 16, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow claims 18-19 for at least the same reasons as those for claims 15-16.

Claims 1-3, 8, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,461,622 to Bleickardt et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,253,247 to Bhaskar et al.; and claims 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bleickardt et al., Bhaskar et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,473,438 to Cioffi et al. Applicants cancel the rejected claims.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider

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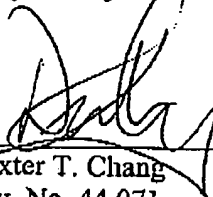
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this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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